

Blues find it tough

Wycombe W. 2,
Aylesbury U. 1

ATHENIAN League, Division One side Aylesbury United can count themselves highly unlucky not to snatch a deserved draw against Isthmian League champions Wycombe Wanderers at Loakes Park in Tuesday night's friendly. United matched Wycombe move for move in the second half and ended up looking the superior side.

Wanderers line up was not far from full strength—and they treated the game as seriously as any other match. Dave Bullock switched to centre half from full back with Ian Rundle, while Pritchard moved into the forwards, leaving Hutchinson, Jameson and Gane in midfield.

The changes left Wycombe somewhat disorganised while Aylesbury never stopped running and coupled with a superb performance by goalkeeper Hughes, they produced football that belied their league standing.

But apart from missing chances, the most disturbing feature of Wycombe's game was the amount of possession they threw away with poor passing. As the match wore on, the worse it became, with both Hutchinson and Jameson handing the ball to United on a plate.

Wycombe certainly got in some practice from dead ball situations. All in all they had 21 corners to Aylesbury's four. Although this was not a fair indication of the play, Wanderers should have capitalised far more inside the penalty area—only one goal resulted from the flag kicks.

Goalkeeper Hughes saved from Searle twice before the centre forward put Wycombe one up with a curling shot after he recovered well from a tackle by Heighway. The Blues' football in the first half was neat and tidy with passes speeding across the wet turf accurately. But it didn't last and Aylesbury were soon keeping Kevin O'Brien far busier than John Maskell had been at Dulwich Hamlet on Saturday.

Horseman came on for Jameson and Olson for Gamblin, Bullock moving to full back for the second half, but the changes saw Wycombe deteriorate badly. Nippy winger John Wain was causing many problems with his speed and it came as no surprise when he slid home a fine equaliser in the 57th minute.

The goal was a real tonic for United who peppered in shots regularly at O'Brien. Ironically it was keeper Hughes who made the mistake for Wycombe's winning goal, dropping the ball after a goalmouth scramble and allowing Tony Horseman to walk the ball home for a fortunate winner.

S.E.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: K. O'Brien, M. Cooper, D. Bullock, I. Rundle, D. Gamblin (sub. G. Olson 45 mins.), A. Gane, K. Jameson (sub. A. Horseman 45 mins.), J. Hutchinson, K. Searle, L. Pritchard, M. Holifield.

AYLESBURY UNITED: Hughes, S. Peel, Heighway, D. Peel, Grafton, Jones, McBryde, Waller, Gogan, Eales (Sub. Chapman 45 mins.), Wain.

Half time: 1-0. **Goalscorers** Wycombe — Searle (23), Horseman (85), Aylesbury — Wain (57).
Attendance 480.